

Commissioner of Patents
Serial No. 10/633,900
Response Date February 2, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated November 9, 2005
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REMARKS

Claims 8-19 of the Application were pending as of the date of the Office Action. In the Office Action, the Examiner considered claims 8-13 to be allowable and rejected claims 14-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Ichihara et al. in view of Czechoslovakian document 9201096. While Applicant does not agree with the Examiner's conclusion of obviousness of claims 14-19 and expressly reserves the right to file a continuation patent application to overcome the rejections of claims 14-19, Applicant cancels claims 14-19 without prejudice and respectfully submits that the rejection of claims 14-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are moot and should be withdrawn.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Applicant has made a patentable contribution to the art and that this response places the above-identified application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this Application is therefore respectfully submitted. In the event Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for payment of any fee, Applicant conditionally petitions therefor, and authorizes any deficiency to be charged to deposit account 09-0007. When doing so, please reference the above-listed docket number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Fax Transmittal Sheet
USPTO Transmittal Form